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Man Said to Be Original U-2 Pilot Tries Suicide

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**Mother Tells of Him Being Called to
Washington; Says That He Is 'Marked'**

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A 34-year-old service station attendant, identified by his mother as one of the original seven U-2 pilots, was in serious condition in General Hospital yesterday as a result of what police said was a suicide attempt. The man is Bruce Grant, who was found in his bed at 1228 4th Ave. by his mother, Mrs. Marie Grant. Doctors said he had taken an overdose of sleeping pills and had cut his right wrist. Mrs. Grant, at first reluctant to discuss her son's activities, said he had been disturbed since suffering impairment to his brain because of an oxygen deficiency accident while flying at 100,000 ft. in 1955.



SUICIDE TRY — Bruce Grant is in serious condition after suicide attempt. Mother says he is one of 7 U-2 pilots.

'Marked Man'

"He's a marked man," she cautioned. "After the Powers U-2 incident he was called back to Washington D.C., by the State Department. Someone tried to kill him by shooting him in the head while he was asleep in his hotel room."

Grant, Mrs. Grant said, joined the Air Force in 1944 after being graduated from Black-Foxe Military Academy. He reached the rank of captain and flew in the Korean war.

In 1955, she related, he, along with six other fliers, was taken out of the Air Force and placed in the State

Department training program which lead to U-2 flights.

"Three of the original seven were killed and after his accident, Bruce refused to fly the plane," Mrs. Grant said.

He was returned to the Air Force, Mrs. Grant continued, only to be cut from the service in 1958.

"Since that time he has been in and out of Sawtelle Veterans Hospital," she

said. "He was suffering from lack of equilibrium and was very nervous. He's afraid of something."

She said she wished to talk to an Andrews Air Force Base physician before discussing the Washington (D.C.) shooting but later disclosed the story told her by her son.

"He was supposed to talk to someone in the State Department the next day," she said. "During the night he was aware of someone coming into his room, placing a pillow over his head and then shooting him. The gun was found the next day on the floor of his room."

Slept Late

She said Grant told her he was taking yesterday off from his service station job so thought nothing of his sleeping late this morning.

"I awoke at 4:30 a.m. and his light was still on," she told officers. "I went in, he was covered up, and I turned off the light. After noon I heard him groaning and found he had cut his wrists."

Mrs. Grant said she was unable to account for her son's action.

"He was saving every cent he made at his job," she cried. "I knew he was hurt by the loss of his career."

She said Grant had been married. "It lasted only 10 months."